THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) to (d) Some voices have been raised in this regard. However no such proposal is under consideration of the Government.

Official Communication from Hizbul Mujahideen on Unilateral Cease-Fire

2546. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any offical communication from the militant outfit Hizbul Mujahideen about their unilateral three months cease-fire in Jammu and Kashmir and to hold talks with the Central Government;

(b) if so, the details of their communication;

(c) the views of the Central Government on the subject; and

(d) whether Government would like to take any initiative to form a consensus with the Opposition Parties and if so, the steps taken in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) to (d) Hizbul-Mujahideen has since withdrawn the cease-fire. The Government will however not deviate from its chosen course of talks with all those in Kashmir who eschew the path of terror and violence. However Government would continue its battle against all those who continue to stick to that path of terrorism.

Security cover to Ex-PMs

2547. DR. M.N. DAS: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some Ex-Prime Ministers have requested Government to withdraw the special protection cover to them;

(b) if so, what have been Government's response to their requests; and